

To: Caporale, Cynthia[Caporale.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: binetti, victoria
Sent: Wed 2/26/2014 2:29:41 PM
Subject: RE: Call to Dr Simonton

Thanks, Cindy.--Vicky

From: Caporale, Cynthia
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2014 9:19 AM
To: binetti, victoria; Kelly, Jack (R3 Phila.); Arguto, William
Subject: FW: Call to Dr Simonton

FYI – update on formaldehyde data.

From: Gundersen, Jennifer
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:46 AM
To: Caporale, Cynthia
Subject: Call to Dr Simonton

Cindy

I talked to Dr. Scott Simonton today. He has not seem formaldehyde in any other sample results but was not sure how many other samples that were taken were analyzed for formaldehyde. He is going to ask the lab, ALS, for the raw data and will send it to me for review.

We discussed the 3 samples with hits of formaldehyde and why the MCHM samples were so variable. The samples with non-detect (0.050mg/L NQL) and 0.16 mg/L were upstairs, customer, bathrooms. The sample with 1.9mg/L was a downstairs, employee, bathroom that was used less after the “do not use” warning. He said there was a definite odor of MCHM in that bathroom- also that it did not seem to get the same level of cleaning as the upstairs.

He is not sure if the water company used permanganate routinely or if it was just after the odors became apparent. We discussed whether permanganate alone could catalyze the transformation. My understanding was that it required high temps plus permanganate and the reaction would not readily occur at ambient temps. His choice of formaldehyde as a target was to consider degradation of the product by any pathway, not just in the treatment process. Given that our organic chem classes are both far in the past, we would have to leave that question for other

experts in O Chem.

I mentioned that potential for false positives in Method 8015 and that it suggests confirmation of targets by gc/ms. He is not sure if the lab did that but hopefully the raw data will shed light on the question.

I'll let you know when I get the raw data

Jennie